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SCIENCE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, PUBLISHING THE
OFFICIAL NOTICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1902.

THE INTELLECTUAL CONDITIONS FOR EMBRYOLOGICAL SCIENCE.

CONTENTS:

<i>The Intellectual Conditions for Embryological Science</i> (II.): PROFESSOR W. K. BROOKS..	481
<i>The Nature of Nerve Stimulation and of Changes in Irritability:</i> DR. A. P. MATHEWS	492
<i>Nodules and Molecules of Red Blood-corpuscles:</i> PROFESSOR G. MACCLOSKE.....	499
<i>Scientific Books:—</i>	
<i>Borel's Leçons sur les séries divergentes; Hadamard's La Série de Taylor:</i> PROFESSOR E. B. VAN VLECK. <i>Young's Elementary Principles of Chemistry:</i> PROFESSOR E. RENOUF. <i>Beecher's Studies in Evolution:</i> PROFESSOR A. S. PACKARD.....	500
<i>Societies and Academies:—</i>	
<i>The American Philosophical Society. The American Electro-chemical Society. The Geological Society of Washington:</i> ALFRED H. BROOKS. <i>New York Academy of Sciences. Section of Biology:</i> PROFESSOR HENRY E. CRAMPTON. <i>The Academy of Sciences of St. Louis:</i> PROFESSOR WILLIAM TRELEASE. <i>The Torrey Botanical Club:</i> PROFESSOR EDWARD S. BURGESS. <i>The North-eastern Section of the American Chemical Society:</i> PROFESSOR H. FAX. <i>The Onondaga Academy of Science:</i> T. C. HOPKINS.....	504
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>American Association for the Advancement of Science, Anthropology:</i> HARLAN I. SMITH. <i>Felis Oregonensis Raf. Again!</i> DR. WITMER STONE. <i>A Very Sensitive Thermostat:</i> PROFESSOR W. P. BRADLEY. <i>Scientific Nomenclature:</i> DR. HORACE WHITE.....	509
<i>Botanical Notes:—</i>	
<i>A Popular Book on Trees; Gattinger's Flora of Tennessee; Engler's Pflanzenreich:</i> PROFESSOR CHARLES E. BESSEY.....	511
<i>Notes on Inorganic Chemistry:</i> J. L. H.....	513
<i>Recent Zoopaleontology:—</i>	
<i>Fritsche's Fauna der Gaskohle:</i> H. F. O....	514
<i>Gravity on the Ocean:</i> O. H. T.....	514
<i>Bryan Donkin:</i> R. H. T.....	515
<i>Scientific Notes and News.....</i>	516
<i>University and Educational News.....</i>	520

II.

NATURAL HISTORY AND NATURAL KNOWLEDGE.

THE definition of science as the analysis and classification of facts leads the philosophical spokesmen of modern science to believe that an embryological account of thinking men is impossible, because it leads them to believe there is a chasm which is intellectually impassable between the facts of physics and the facts of consciousness.

Since the minds and senses by the aid of which we make scientific discoveries are generated from eggs, the progress of embryological science must bring us around sooner or later to the old question: What is science? What is it to know a thing?

In this paper I shall show the fitness of biological science for helping us to reconsider this great question.

1. *May it not be that we understand a thing when we can tell what it means, and use it?*

Philosophers tell us we understand a thing *when we comprehend it*, but it is my purpose to ask whether the progress of biological science may not lead us to think, with Berkeley, that we understand a thing *when we can tell what it means and use it*, and whether this definition of science may